

DRAFT

City of Cambridge Recycling Advisory Committee, Council Chambers, 795 Mass Ave

September 9, 2015 - Minutes Taken by Rob Gogan (with help from Keith Cialino)

Members present: Keith Cialino, Debby Galef, Rob Gogan, Susy Jones, Debby Knight, Laura Nichols, Janet Mosley, Meera Singh, Joanna Vanden. **Members absent:** Mary Verhage **Staff present:** Meryl Brott, Randi Mail, Mike Orr. **Guests:** Susan Cascino, Ted Live, Adam Mitchell, Helen Snively.

Housekeeping: The June minutes were approved with a couple edits. No public comment.

City Updates

Curbside compost pickup: **Collection** to begin from eligible residences, totaling 5000 households, on Monday route starting Oct 19. V Eligible residents will get a green curbside bin, kitchen bin, 100 compostable bags a coupon for more bags and how-to instructions. Save That Stuff won the 18-month request for bids for curbside collection. City goal is 40-60% participation, which will be trackable with RFID technology. Mike Orr is Cambridge's new Waste Reduction Program Manager, moving from Lesley University. Mike will be working on the compost program and the BYOB Ordinance.

Outreach: Staff is working on lots of outreach for curbside compost effort to maximize participation including residential mailing, neighborhood signs, tabling and door to door campaign. DPW has hired a part-time Recycling Outreach Assistant, Camilla Elvis who will work 10-15 hours a week helping with composting and recycling outreach.

Please sign up for door to door volunteering October 8, 13, 14 and/or 15 for curbside compost program:
<http://tinyurl.com/CambridgeCompost> and visit CambridgeMA.Gov/CompostPickup to learn more.

BYOB Ordinance: Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance takes effect March 31, 2016. Visit CambridgeMA.Gov/BYOB for more information. Retailers will be required to charge customers 10 cents for any single use bags provided which must be either paper with 40% post-consumer paper, compostable plastic or reusable including plastic of 3 mils or more. Sustainable Business Network is planning a Bag Fair for retailers hosted, October 22, details TBD. City is may encourage supermarkets to switch produce bags from conventional plastic to compostable to help make compostable bags widely available.

Discussion Topics

Elections: Keith and Janet elected as new RAC Co-Chairs for 2015-16. Debbie G will serve as secretary. Thanks Officers! Committee members signed up for taking minutes: October (Joanna), November (Debby G), December (Susy), January (Janet), February (Keith), and March (Debby K). April, May and June still need volunteers.

Check-ins/Goals for FY15: After input from all members, Committee decided priorities are:

- [Volunteering](#) for compost door to door campaign,
- Education for the BYOB Ordinance, possible reusable bag drive
- Materials management/2020 plan to reduce trash 30%
- Data review from ISD on business recycling
- Forum for property managers of large residential buildings
- Continue working on integrating Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot into school curricula
- Understand costs and collection for public area recycling bins

Action Items

- Sign up for volunteering for compost awareness—[door to door](#)
- Note your minutes month and sign up if you have not taken a month.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35am.